

Application No.: 09/996,439
Filing Date: November 28, 2001

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

An updated version of Figure 5A is being submitted herewith. Applicant wishes to point out that Figure 5A was originally submitted to the USPTO in a Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently with the present application on November 28, 2001. This initial version of Figure 5A was hand-drawn. Computer generated versions of this original drawing were submitted to the USPTO in Supplemental Amendments filed on April 7, 2010 and April 21, 2010. The version of the drawing sheet in the accompanying Appendix replaces the original and previously-filed versions of Figure 5A, and includes the designation "*New Sheet*" at the top of the page and the designation "*New*" next to the figure number, in accordance with MPEP §1413. Applicant submits that no new matter has been introduced as a result of the current or previous non-substantive amendments to Figure 5A.

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REMARKS

Pursuant to the telephone conversation on April 23, 2010 between Examiner Brown and Applicant's attorney, Rabi Narula, a new version of Figure 5A is being re-submitted herewith. As discussed above, this updated version of Figure 5A includes the proper designations related to new sheets in accordance with the MPEP. No new matter was added as a result of the non-substantive changes to this drawing.

Claims 28-35 and 37-47 were pending in this application. Claims 1-27 and 36 were previously canceled without prejudice. No amendments to the claims are made herein. Accordingly, Claims 28-35 and 37-47 are presented herein for further consideration.

Supplemental Reissue Declaration

In accordance with the guidelines set forth in MPEP §1414.01 and the telephone conversation between Examiner Brown and Rabi Narula on April 23, 2010, Applicant believes that a Supplemental Reissue Declaration does not need to accompany this Amendment. However, if the Examiner disagrees with the Applicant's conclusion regarding the need for a Supplemental Reissue Declaration, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's attorney, Rabi Narula, at the below-listed telephone number to resolve any remaining issues.

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Status of Claims, Explanation of Claim Amendments and Support therefor - 37 C.F.R. §1.173(c)

Claims 28-35 and 37-47 were pending in this application. Claims 1-9 were canceled without prejudice as part of the Amendment filed with the USPTO on July 28, 2009. In addition, Claims 10-27 were canceled without prejudice as part of the Amendment filed with the USPTO on November 11, 2008. As noted above and reflected in the listing of claims, no claim amendments are made herein.

The status of the claims is provided in the following table. A list of support from the specification and figures of the original patent, U.S. Patent No. 5,597,200 ("the '200 patent"), for the presently pending claims is also provided in the table. This list is not intended to be comprehensive.

<u>Claim(s)</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Support (<i>inter alia</i>) in the '200 patent</u>	<u>Notes/Comments</u>
1-9.	Canceled	n/a	As issued in the '200 patent
10-27.	Canceled	n/a	Claims 10-21 were amended in the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently with the present application on Nov. 28, 2001
28.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As amended in the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently with the present application on Nov. 28, 2001 and as amended in the Office Action response filed on Oct. 7, 2009
29.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As originally filed in the present application
30.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As amended in the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently with the present application on Nov. 28, 2001
31.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As amended in the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently with the present application on Nov. 28, 2001, as amended in the Office Action response filed on Oct. 7, 2009 and as amended in the Supplemental Amendment filed on Apr. 7, 2010
32.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As amended in the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently with the present application on Nov. 28, 2001

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<u>Claim(s)</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Support (<i>inter alia</i>) in the '200 patent</u>	<u>Notes/Comments</u>
33.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As amended in the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently with the present application on Nov. 28, 2001
34.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As originally filed in the present application
35.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As amended in the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently with the present application on Nov. 28, 2001
36.	Canceled	n/a	Canceled in the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently with the present application on Nov. 28, 2001
37.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As amended in the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently with the present application on Nov. 28, 2001
38.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As originally filed in the present application
39.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As added in the Preliminary Amendment filed on Nov. 11, 2008; This claim is identical to original Claim 1, as amended in the Preliminary Amendment filed with the present application on Nov. 28, 2001
40.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As added in the Preliminary Amendment filed on Nov. 11, 2008; This claim is identical to original Claim 2, as initially filed with the present application on Nov. 28, 2001
41.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As added in the Preliminary Amendment filed on Nov. 11, 2008; This claim is identical to original Claim 3, as amended in the Preliminary Amendment filed with the present application on Nov. 28, 2001
42.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As added in the Preliminary Amendment filed on Nov. 11, 2008; This claim is identical to original Claim 4, as amended in the Preliminary Amendment filed with the present application on Nov. 28, 2001

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<u>Claim(s)</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Support (<i>inter alia</i>) in the '200 patent</u>	<u>Notes/Comments</u>
43.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As added in the Preliminary Amendment filed on Nov. 11, 2008; This claim is identical to original Claim 5, as amended in the Preliminary Amendment filed with the present application on Nov. 28, 2001
44.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As added in the Preliminary Amendment filed on Nov. 11, 2008; This claim is identical to original Claim 6, as initially filed with the present application on Nov. 28, 2001
45.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As added in the Preliminary Amendment filed on Nov. 11, 2008; This claim is identical to original Claim 7, as initially filed with the present application on Nov. 28, 2001
46.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As added in the Preliminary Amendment filed on Nov. 11, 2008, as amended in the Office Action response filed on Oct. 7, 2009, as amended in the Supplemental Amendment filed on Apr. 7, 2010 and as amended in the Supplemental Amendment filed on Apr. 21, 2010
47.	Previously Presented	Figs. 1-10B; col. 1:6-21; col. 2:65-col. 10:47; Claims 1-9	As added in the Preliminary Amendment filed on Nov. 11, 2008

No Disclaimers or Disavowals

Although the present communication may include alterations to the subject application or claims, or characterizations of claim scope or referenced art, the Applicant is not conceding in this application that previously pending claims are not patentable over the cited references. Rather, any alterations or characterizations are being made to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. The Applicant reserves the right to pursue at a later date any previously pending or other broader or narrower claims that capture any subject matter supported by the present disclosure, including subject matter found to be specifically disclaimed herein or by any prior prosecution. Accordingly, reviewers of this or any parent, child or related prosecution history shall not reasonably infer that the Applicant has made any disclaimers or disavowals of any subject matter supported by the present application.

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Related Patents and Applications of Assignee

Applicant provides the following table to aid the Examiner during prosecution. The following U.S. patents and patent applications are related to the above-captioned application in that they have at least one listed inventor or assignee in common with the above-captioned application:

Attorney Docket No.	Application No. (U.S. Patent No.)	Filing Date (Issue Date)	Status	Title
AMERGN.006A	08/156,562 (US 5,597,200)	Nov. 22, 1993 (Jan. 28, 1997)	Issued	VARIABLE TEMPERATURE SEAT
AMERGN.006DV1	08/787,038	Jan. 28, 1997	Abandoned	VARIABLE TEMPERATURE SEAT
AMERGN.006RA	09/239,054	Jan. 27, 1999	Abandoned	VARIABLE TEMPERATURE SEAT
AMERGN.006RAC1	09/749,221	Dec. 27, 2000	Abandoned	VARIABLE TEMPERATURE SEAT

Copies of these patents and patent applications, including any office actions, allowances and/or other communications, are available through PAIR. However, if the Examiner so requests, Applicant will be happy to provide the Examiner with copies of any applications, pending claims, office actions, allowances, communications or any other documents, at any time.

Further, Applicant notes for the record that the claims of the present application may be different and/or broader in scope than the claims in any related patent or application. To the extent that any statements made in a related case (such as amendments or characterizations regarding the scope of a claim or prior art) could be construed as a disclaimer of any subject matter supported by the present disclosure, Applicant rescinds and retracts such disclaimer. Accordingly, any listed or referenced prior art may need to be re-visited. Further, any objections or rejections made by the Examiner in the issued and allowed cases identified above may need to be re-visited.

Claims canceled in this application are done so without prejudice. Applicant is not conceding that the previously pending claims are not patentable over the art of record. Applicant reserves the right to later pursue any previously pending or other broader or narrower claims that capture any subject matter supported by the present disclosure, including subject matter found to be specifically disclaimed herein or by any prior prosecution. Accordingly, reviewers of this or

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any parent, child or related prosecution history shall not reasonably infer that the Applicant has made any disclaimers or disavowals of any subject matter supported by the present application.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application in light of the amendment to Figure 5A and the above remarks.

Applicant has made a good faith effort to place the application in condition for immediate allowance. Nevertheless, if any issues remain or otherwise require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's attorney, Rabi Narula, at the below-listed telephone number to promptly resolve such issues.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: April 23, 2010

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